

Appl. No. 10/717,013
Amdt. dated January 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 28, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-5 are present in the application. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are amended herein.

Claim 1 has been amended to further indicate the feature of multiple margin flanges to locate a mouse on the support stand assembly. Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to correct antecedent problems.

The Examiner stated that claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the McCracken (5,816,554, briefly cited as '554 patent). Applicant respectfully traverses. The '554 patent disclosed features of as shown in Fig. 3 and comprises a base (10) with a top face, multiple radial margin flanges (as indicated by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action), two columns (on page 2 of the Office Action) and a headphone mount with a transversal recess.

However, the "margin flanges" in the '554 patent are not the same as ones in the present application. The margin flanges are radial and serve to strengthen support to a central bore (25) erected on the base (10).

In the present application, the margin flanges define an area for resting a mouse on the top face of the base (10) so that the mouse can be put together with the headphone on the same support stand assembly. Amended claim 1 and the original

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specification clearly indicate this feature point. The `554 patent doesn't disclose a support stand assembly in a desired concept that conveniently holds computer accessories to keep them in order on a computer desk.

Since the margin flanges in the present application are different from the one in the `554 patent and the concept of putting the mouse together within the margin flanges is not disclosed, the support stand assembly of the present application is extremely different from the `554 patent. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully submitted to be overcome and claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner stated that claims 1 to 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Funaro (6,029,937, briefly cited as `937 patent), in view of Zaremba et al. (5,577,344, briefly cited as `344 patent). Applicant respectfully traverses.

With regard to the `937 patent and `344 patent recited by the Examiner, both of these prior patents are relative to flora or party stands that are quite far from the application field of the present application. Moreover, the margin flanges shown in the `344 patent do not serve as a mouse locating means. Therefore, the two prior patents can not teach any subject matter that is obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art relevant to applicant's claimed invention. Therefore,

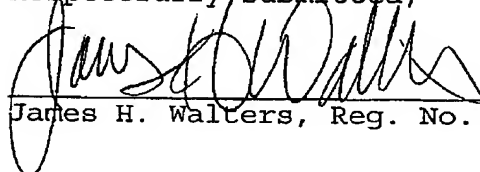
Appl. No. 10/717,013
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independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 to 5 are submitted to be patentable.

After the amendment to the claims, the novelty rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and the obviousness rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Examiner is asked to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


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